

**Minutes of a Town Council meeting held on April 23rd, A.D. 2015 at 6:45 o'clock PM in the Town Council Chambers, Town Hall, 40 Commons, Little Compton, RI. Members present: Charles N. Appleton, Jr., Fred M. Bodington, III, Paul J. Golembeske, Gary S. Mataronas and Robert L. Mushen. Also present: Police Chief A. Marion, III and Tom Dunn, Business Manager.**

**One individual was interviewed who wishes to fill the vacancy created on the Beach Commission by the resignation of Joseph Rocha. Four individuals filed letters of interest, one advised the council that she would not be able to attend this evening; two withdrew their names from consideration, leaving a final individual to be interviewed.**

**At 7 PM the Town Council President called the Council meeting to order with a Salute to the Flag.**

**As per Section 410 of the Little Compton Home Rule Charter the Town Council conducted a public hearing concerning a proposed amendment to Chapter 6-5.3 – Limit on Number of Licenses to specifically add an additional Class BV-limited to the list of available Retail Beverage Licenses for use in the Town of Little Compton. The Council President called for any public comment. Receiving none the following took place:**

**Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by**

**Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To close a public hearing concerning a proposal to amend Chapter 6 of the Town of Little Compton Town Code.**

**Motion made by Councilor Mushen, receiving a second by Councilor Mataronas, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To amend Chapter 6 of the Little Compton Town Code to increase the limit on the number of Class BV, Limited Retail Beverage License to Two (2) under section 6-5.3.**

**This new license will be posted as available for application by qualified establishments for two weeks.**

**Councilor Mataronas announced that RI Dept. of Environmental Management will begin staging the State Boat Launching Ramp with equipment next week in preparation for the repair work to begin on or about May 1st. East Coast Construction was awarded the bid by the State. The work should restrict the use of the ramp for approximately a month and half. During that time individuals who need a boat ramp should utilize other boat ramp facilities available.**

**Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To place on file the Fire Department Head Reports for February and March 2015.**

**Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Appleton, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To authorize Councilors Bodington and Mushen to speak with the Department of Environmental Management and the City of East Providence to conduct research concerning the consideration of a municipal solar field project and to further consider gathering a group of interested individuals to conduct more extensive research.**

**Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To appoint Joseph Maiato to the Beach Commission for a term which will expire upon the conclusion of the Annual Financial Town Meeting to be held in May 2017, said appointment fills the unexpired term of Joseph Rocha.**

**Councilor Mushen noted that the Budget Committee has not voted on a preliminary budget as of this time. He also noted that the Budget Committee is inclined to recommend a reduction in all fuel expenses by 25%, a reduction in the Fire Department part time personnel line by approximately \$16,000 and a reduction of \$5,000 in the capital plan budget. After a brief discussion the following vote was taken:**

**Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by**

**Councilor Golembeske, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To reduce the budget proposal for FY2016 for the Capital Improvements from \$105,000 to \$100,000 and to resubmit said budget article to the Town Clerk for inclusion in the warrant for the Annual Financial Town Meeting of May 19, 2015.**

**Councilor Mushen noted that the Peckham Lot Recreational Field Project plans will be submitted to RI Dept. of Environmental Management with the anticipated goal of the field being ready for seeding by October 1st.**

**Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To adopt the following resolution and to send a copy to the Speaker of the House, the Senate President, the Governor of the State of Rhode Island, Senator DiPalma and Representative Canario:**

## **RESOLUTION OF THE LITTLE COMPTON TOWN COUNCIL**

**WHEREAS, the Governor has proposed a new statewide property surtax of \$2.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value on non-owner occupied residences and vacant residential land valued at \$1 million or more, and**

**WHEREAS, the seasonal owners of these kinds of property in Little**

**Compton generate substantial income for tradesmen, property managers, boating services, shops and restaurants in the town, and**

**WHEREAS, these owners largely have no voice in local or state government, yet whose property taxes contribute significantly to the overall tax levy of the town, and**

**WHEREAS, these owners historically are among the most generous of contributors to local fundraising and volunteer services, and**

**WHEREAS, the cities and towns of the state have a longstanding de facto right to the revenues generated by the property tax, which this proposal would immediately jeopardize.**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE Little Compton Town Council requests the General Assembly to reject this proposal as any part of the current and future budget considerations.**

**Adopted this 23rd day of April, 2015 by the Little Compton Town Council.**

**Robert L. Mushen, Town Council President**

**Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To endorse the Ecological Oasis Project as presented by Joao Arruda, Principal of the**

**Wilbur-McMahon Schools, an outdoor classroom/learning environment that features a coastal shrub habitat, wetlands, meadow, and holly/oak forest native to Little Compton, as well as a pond with a waterfall, a bog, a vegetable garden and a bricked patio and walkways, it is also acknowledged that Mr. Arruda stated that this project will be funded through donations and not out of the School Department budget.**

**Two (2) bid proposals were received for a sub-contractor to cut and trim two (2) lawns owned by the Town as follows:**

**Steven K. Reuter Lawn & Landscape, Inc.**

**16 Wordell Lane, Little Compton, RI**

**Lawn 1) 60 Simmons Road \$150 per mow**

**Lawn 2) 43 Meeting House Lane \$50 per mow**

**David Wood \$59.75 per mow**

**138 Long Highway, Little Compton, RI**

**Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To refer to the Director of Public Works Director for recommendation two (2) proposals received from interested sub-contractors to cut and trim two (2) lawns owned by the Town.**

**Two (2) bid proposals were received for a lawn mowing machine for use by the Town public works department as follows:**

**David Wood several proposals ranging from \$5,347 to \$9,000**

**138 Long Highway, Little Compton, RI**

**Richard Helger d/b/a**

**Helger's South Coast Power Equipment several proposals ranging from \$5,500 to \$9,500**

**593b American Legion Highway**

**Westport, MA**

**Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Golembeske, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To refer to the Director of Public Works Director for recommendation two (2) proposals received for the purchase of a lawn mowing machine.**

**Discussion ensued concerning a policy previously rendered where the use of transfer station single use coupons would be sold for seasonal residents of Round Meadows Camp Ground on South Shore Road. The Council considered a possibility of creating a third type of authorization method to allow a small window of use for seasonal residents.**

**Motion made by Councilor Bodington, receiving a second by Councilor Mataronas, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To request Councilor Bodington and the Town Clerk bring a recommendation relating to seasonal use of the Town Transfer Station to the Council at its meeting of May 7, 2015.**

**Councilor Mushen gave a report on a meeting of the RI League of Cities and Towns where several topics were covered:**

- 1. RI Infrastructure Bank**
- 2. The League policy on enabling bills and budget articles**
- 3. Presentation on PRISM (Partnership for RI Streetlight Management)**
- 4. FY16 State Budget**
- 5. FY17 Tipping Fees for Johnston Landfill**
- 6. Pension Suit Settlement Legislation**
- 7. Labor Bills**

**Discussion of approval of an ordinance exempting solar systems from taxation: During the discussion motions were made and seconded to conduct a public hearing on a proposal to exempt residential solar systems from taxation. Comparison was made to the North Smithfield ordinance which exempts both residential and commercial. Councilor Golembeske expressed concerns with a commercial project he is undertaking for a solar project and his**



**potential need to recuse if the matter involves both commercial and residential. Councilors Bodington and Mushen noted that they are in the process of considering installation of solar systems in residential settings and would need to recuse themselves from this matter. The original motions for a public hearing were withdrawn. A motion to have Councilors Bodington, Mushen and Mataronas sit to discuss this matter more closely did not receive a second.**

**Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Appleton, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To request that Councilors Appleton and Mataronas meet with the Town Solicitor to consider the Councils potential options to grant, if possible, a tax exemption for residential solar systems.**

**At 8:36 PM the Town Council sitting as the Board of License Commissioners voted the following:**

**Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To grant a Class F-1 One Day Beverage License to the Little Compton Little League for an event to be held on May 16, 2015 at the LC Game Club facility on John Dyer Rd.**

**Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by**

**Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Mataronas, Mushen) Councilor Golembeske abstained from voting: To grant a Class F-1 One Day Beverage License to the LC Game Club for an event to be held on May 2, 2015 at its facility on John Dyer Rd.**

**Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To place on file a Public Notice received from Coastal Resources Management Council regarding a comment period for an application under consideration of Nancy Howe, 76 Round Pond Road, Little Compton, RI for the installation of a dry fire hydrant and pipe into Round Pond to be used exclusively by the Little Compton Fire Department.**

**Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To renew a Private Detective License for David C. Toracinta for the ensuing year.**

**Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To place on file a resolution adopted by the Charlestown Town Council opposing a surtax on second homes.**

**Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by**

**Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To place on file a resolution adopted by the Charlestown Town Council supporting H5594 and S0741 relating to the Municipal Streetlight Investment Act.**

**Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To adopt the following proclamation:**

## **PROCLAMATION**

### **DESIGNATING THE SECOND FULL WEEK IN MAY**

**As “Women’s Lung Health Week”**

**WHEREAS, every five minutes, a woman in the U.S. is told she has lung cancer; and**

**WHEREAS, lung cancer is the #1 cancer killer of women in the U.S. and Rhode Island; and**

**WHEREAS, the lung cancer death rate in women has almost doubled over the past 37 years; and**

**WHEREAS, advocacy and increased awareness will result in more**

**and better early detection and treatment for women with lung cancer and other lung diseases and will ultimately save lives; and**

**WHEREAS, LUNG FORCE is the national movement led by the American Lung Association to unite women to stand together with collective strength and determination to lead the fight against lung cancer and for lung health.**

**BE IT RESOLVED, Little Compton hereby designates the second full week in May as Women's Lung Health Week throughout the community, and encourages all residents to learn more about the detection and treatment of lung cancer.**

**Adopted this 23rd day of April, 2015 by the Little Compton Town Council.**

**Robert L. Mushen, Town Council President**

**Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Mataronas, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To place on file an announcement of an event entitled "Turning the Tide In The Ocean State – The Impact of Marijuana on our Communities" to be held April 27, 2015 at the CCRI Newport Campus.**

**Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Mataronas, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To place on file three resolutions adopted by the Westerly Town Council supporting House Bill 2015-H5000 and House Bill 2015 – H5107 as well as opposing House Bill 2015 – H5257.**

**Motion made by Councilor Mataronas, receiving a second by Councilor Golembeske, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To place on file the consent calendar as follows:**

- 1. Copy of a resolution adopted by the Bristol Town Council opposing House Bill H5847 relating to Waters and Navigation – Harbors and Harbor Lines.**
- 2. Letter from Carol Belair expressing her dismay in learning that the proposed walking path will not be paved, but rather made of crushed stone which will limit its use by the very young and the very old. (this letter will be filed in the Peckham Lot Project file folder)**
- 3. Copy of a letter from the Building Official/Zoning Officer to Gregory Barr, 16 Whistler Point Rd, Assessors Plat 47, Lot 11 seeking more information concerning a proposal to sub-divide property**

**Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Mataronas, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): That the bills be allowed and**

**ordered paid as follows: \$33,917.93**

**Home Depot - Maintenance - Highway \$107.83**

**EastBay Newspapers - Probate \$100.00**

**EastBay Newspapers - Clerk - Planning \$220.50**

**LC School Dept. - Gym Comm \$297.36**

**LC School Dept. - Gym Comm \$75.65**

**Republic Services - Transfer Station \$8,081.72**

**KTR Maintenance & Supply - Town Hall \$44.34**

**RI Assoc. of Assessing Officers - Assessors \$100.00**

**United Site Services - Transfer Station \$115.00**

**Poland Spring - Transfer Station \$7.60**

**Poland Spring - Town Hall - Maintenance \$22.24**

**Direct Energy - Transfer Station \$142.16**

**Direct Energy - Public Safety Complex \$614.10**

**Valcourt Heating - Maintenance \$139.50**

**Nationalgrid - Town Dock \$32.60**

**Nationalgrid - Peckham Lot \$17.51**

**Nationalgrid - Street Lights \$15.85**

**Nationalgrid - Cell Tower \$172.72**

**Nationalgrid - 32 Commons \$19.22**

**Nationalgrid - IOOF \$20.30**

**Nationalgrid - Town Hall \$188.54**

**Nationalgrid - Adamsville Lights \$27.32**

**Stanley engineering Inc. - Assessors \$874.90**

**Michael Massa - Harbor Management Fund \$135.95**

**Thomas Wood - Police Dept. \$430.00**

**Cox Communications - Police Dept. \$171.00**

**Cox Communications - Police Dept. \$193.63**

**Sakonnet Veterinary Hospital - Police Dept. \$440.00 \$1,234.63**

**Verizon Wireless - Drug Forft. \$297.11**

**Dept. of Atty General - Drug Forft. \$60.00 \$357.11**

**Verizon Wireless - Transfer Station \$30.27**

**Verizon Wireless - Building Official \$59.06**

**Verizon Wireless - Maintenance \$30.31**

**Verizon Wireless - Maintenance \$33.14**

**Belmont Springs - Fire Dept. \$26.12**

**Cox Communications - Fire Dept. \$175.41**

**Griggs & Browne - Fire Dept. \$50.00**

**KTR Maintenance & Supply - Fire Dept. \$170.36 \$421.89**

**Firematic Supply Co - Amb. Reimb. Fund \$345.57**

**Firematic Supply Co - Amb. Reimb. Fund \$72.29**

**Home Depot - Amb. Reimb. Fund \$223.01**

**Rob's Auto Care Inc - Amb. Reimb. Fund \$30.00**

**Southcoast Hospitals Group - Amb. Reimb. Fund \$3.32**

**Verizon Wireless - Amb. Reimb. Fund \$123.07 \$797.26**

**Direct Energy - Cell Tower \$232.33**

**Direct Energy - Town Dock \$30.80**

**Direct Energy - Adamsville Street Lights \$23.22**

**Direct Energy - Town Hall \$255.06**

**Direct Energy - IOOF \$13.11**

**Direct Energy - 32 Commons \$11.56**

**Direct Energy - Street Lights    \$6.71**  
**Direct Energy - Peckham Lot    \$9.13**  
**JJA Sports LLC - Peckham Lot Project    \$12,036.34**  
**Cox Communications - 32 Commons    \$67.13**  
**Paychex of New York LLC - Treasurer    \$449.05**  
**Goulart Petroleum Inc. - Public Safety Complex    \$627.84**  
**Rich McGee and Son Excavating - Capital project    \$505.00**  
**Rich McGee and Son Excavating - Capital project    \$3,870.00**  
**Rob's Auto Care Inc - Maintenance    \$879.07**  
**Rob's Auto Care Inc. - Maintenance    \$365.00**

**At 8:41 PM the Town Council took a brief recess to allow the public to leave the chambers prior to entering into executive session as follows:**

**Carol A Wordell, Town Clerk**

### **Executive Session – 23 April 2015**

**The Town Council reconvened into open session at 8:44 PM with the Town Council President polling his fellow members as to their wishes to enter into executive session under RIGL Section 42-46-5(a)(2) collective bargaining for the LC Municipal Employees Union NEARI and Local 3957 IAFF. All voted in favor: Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen.**



**Attendees during the executive session: Charles N. Appleton, Jr., Fred M. Bodington, III; Paul J. Golembeske, Gary S. Mataronas and Robert L. Mushen.**

**Ongoing collective bargaining negotiations and proposals with both unions were discussed.**

**At 9:16 PM the Town Council President polled his fellow members as to their wishes to come out of executive session under RIGL Section 42-46-5(a)(2) collective bargaining for the LC Municipal Employees Union NEARI and Local 3957 IAFF. All voted in favor: Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen.**

**Motion made by Councilor Golembeske, receiving a second by Councilor Bodington, voting in favor (Appleton, Bodington, Golembeske, Mataronas, Mushen): To adjourn at 9:16 PM.**

**Robert L Mushen, Clerk Pro-tem**